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NEWS RELEASE

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UM INSTITUTE PLANS 1999 WILDERNESS LECTURE SERIES

MISSOULA--

Personal and profound relationships can develop between people and nature. This year's wilderness issues lecture series at The University of Montana will explore the underlying connections between people, culture and wild nature. The series will offer a diverse look at the varying ways people have come to understand the spiritual aspects of wilderness.

The series, titled "Wilderness and Spirit: The Underlying Connection," will be offered in 12 parts, starting with "River Soldiers" on Tuesday, Jan. 26. All lectures are free and open to the public and will be held Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in Social Science Building Room 352. The last lecture will be April 27.

This is the 20th year that the Wilderness Issues Lecture Series has provided educational opportunities to both students and the public on the critical issues surrounding wilderness and wildlands preservation, use and stewardship. The lectures are sponsored by the UM School of Forestry's Wilderness Institute.

The series will be broadcasted on Montana Public Radio. Call the station in your area for local air times.

Following is a complete lecture listing:

-- "River Soldiers," Jan. 26, by David James Duncan, faculty affiliate with the UM English department.

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-- "Buddhism, Ecology and Wild Places," Feb. 2, by Dexter Roberts, UM instructor and English professor emeritus.

-- "Spirits of My Homeland," Feb. 9, by Reno LoParco, UM School of Pharmacy administrator.

-- "A Radical Logical Positivist's Spiritual Dilemma," Feb. 16, by Richard Manning, author of "One Round River," "A Good House," "Grassland" and "The Last Stand."

-- "Backbone of the World," March 2, by George Burdeau and Darren Kipp, both members of the Blackfeet Tribe. Burdeau is a film producer and director, and Kipp is a film producer.

-- "Recognizing the Spiritual Connection on Public Lands," March 9, by Cynthia Manning, acting national Human Dimensions Coordinator with the U.S. Forest Service.

-- "Wild Wilderness," March 23, by Scott Silver, executive director of Wild Wilderness.

-- "Trailhead to Spirit," March 30, by Jean Purviance, Wildwood School instructor and child care worker.

-- "Spiritualism in Hunting -- An Oxymoron?" April 6, by David Petersen, author of several books, including "The Nearby Faraway" and "Ghost Grizzlies." He also edits works such as "Fair Land: The Environmental Essays of A.B. Guthrie Jr."

-- "Earth's Mind," April 13, by Roger Dunsmore, UM professor emeritus of humanities and wilderness studies and author of several books, including "Essays in Native Literature" and "Blood House."

-- "Caring for Creation: Christianity and Nature," April 20, by Margery Durham and Carol Werner. Werner is a nurse with St. Josephs Hospital's Home Health Care Program in Polson, and Durham is an English professor emeritus from the University of Minnesota.

-- "Origins," April 27, by Linda Moon Stumpff, an environmental studies professor and director of graduate programs in administration at Evergreen State College.

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